GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2946
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2001
TEA TRADE WITH CHINA
ANANDRAO ADSUL;ANANT GANGARAM GEETE;ANANTRAO GUDHE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have signed agreement with China in regard to trade in tea;

(b) if so, the extent to which the agreement is likely to benefit India in the economic and commercial fields;

(c) the extent of success achieved from the aforesaid agreement;

(d) whether such agreement has also been signed with other countries also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) : No, Sir.

(b)&(c) : Do not arise.

(d) & (e) : Government/Tea Board has entered into agreements with Sri Lanka and Russia respectively with regard to trade in tea. Under the Indo-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement Sri Lanka has been allowed to export to India upto 15 Mn. Kgs of tea per annum at a concessional customs duty of 7.5%. The agreement has become operational since April 2000.
Tea Board has entered into an agreement with the Russian Tea and Coffee Association and the Russian Organisation of Tea Producers (ROSCHAI) in December, 1998 for annual off-take of 100 Mn. kgs of tea from India during the period from January, 99 to December, 2005.